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## **COUNTRY HOUSE WINS 145TH KENTUCKY DERBY VIA DISQUALIFICATION OF MAXIMUM SECURITY BEFORE CROWD OF 150,729**

**LOUISVILLE, KY (Saturday, May 4, 2019) – Mrs. J.V. Shields Jr., E.J.M. McFadden Jr. and LNJ Foxwoods' Country House** became the first horse to win the Kentucky Derby when he was elevated above **Maximum Security** in the 145<sup>th</sup> running of the \$3 million Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (GI) before a crowd of 150,729.

Trained by **Bill Mott** and ridden by **Flavien Prat**, Country House was elevated to the victory in the race that was run in 2:03.93 over a sloppy track.

Sent off at 65-1, Country House's \$132.40 win mutuel was the second highest in Derby history behind only **Donerail** in 1913 (\$184.90).

The victory was worth \$1,860,000 and increased the winner's earnings to \$2,120,175 with a record of 7-2-2-1. Country House is a Kentucky-bred son of **Lookin At Lucky** out of the **War Chant** mare **Quake Lake**.

Maximum Security led the field through fractions of :22.31, :46.62 and 1:12.50 with **Bodexpress** and **Long Range Toddy** in closest pursuit. Leaving the far turn, Maximum Security ducked slightly to the outside pushing **War of Will** into Long Range Toddy and forcing a rallying Country House wider.

While this was going on, **Code of Honor** cut the corner turning for home and briefly stuck his head in front only to have Maximum Security surge back to take the lead and then have enough to pull away again from Country House by 1 ¾ lengths.

Prat claimed foul for interference at the top of the stretch as did **Jon Court** on Long Range Toddy and the claims were allowed by the stewards.

"The riders of the 18 (Long Range Toddy) and 20 (Country House) horses in the Kentucky Derby lodged objections against the 7 (Maximum Security) horse, the winner, due to interference turning for home, leaving the quarter pole," said **Barbara Borden**, Chief Steward for the **Kentucky Horse Racing Commission**.

"We (Barbara Borden, State Steward **Brooks "Butch" Becraft** and Churchill Downs-appointed Association Steward **Tyler Picklesimer**) had a lengthy review of the race. We interviewed affected riders. We determined that the 7 horse drifted out and impacted the progress of Number 1 (War of Will), in turn, interfering with the 18 and 21 (**Bodexpress**). Those horses were all affected, we thought, by the interference.

"Therefore, we unanimously determined to disqualify Number 7 and place him behind the 18 (in 17<sup>th</sup> position), the 18 being the lowest-placed horse that he bothered, which is our typical procedure."

Country House returned \$132.40, \$56.60 and \$24.60. Code of Honor returned \$15.20 and \$9.80 and finished three-quarters of a length in front of **Tacitus** who paid \$5.60 to show under **Jose Ortiz**.

Completing the field in order were **Improbable**, **Game Winner**, **Master Fencer (JPN)**, **War of Will**, **Plus Que Parfait**, **Win Win**, **Cutting Humor**, **By My Standards**, **Vekoma**, **Bodexpress**, **Tax**, **Roadster**, **Long Range Toddy**, **Maximum Security**, **Spinoff** and **Gray Magician**.

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